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+nAn as ablative case suffix in Hungarian and Turkic languages

There are several similar phenomena present in the languages of both Uralic and Altaic language families due to the vehement, intensive and lasting contacts at different times of people speaking those languages in the past. The way they express three different directions (with the help of dative, locative and ablative cases) is only one of them. There are studies dealing with the mutual influences as well as with convergent developments. We are aware of loanwords present in both sides from the other group, whereas little is told about borrowed suffixes. Endings are considered as the most stable part of any language.

Therefore we want to underline the importance of the same forms and usage of ablative case Old Hungarian +nAn and Old Turkic +DAn (and its variant +nAt in Hungarian). We suppose it as a borrowed case marker in Hungarian that was used mainly in the form +nAn especially in Kipchak Turkic (among others Cumanian) languages.

Ablative in Ugrian and Turkic languages

There had been ablative case suffix in Uralic proto-language **+tA*, which later became the locative suffix in Ugrian languages, giving rise to a need for a new ablative case suffix that was **+l*.

As for late Old Hungarian we know about two different forms of the ablative case: *+tól* and *+l*, the latter having faded with time (Bereczki 1996: 81). They are also attested in Hungarian codices from the 15th and 16th centuries from which I have chosen examples for illustration (e.g. JókK ...örökül örökké... 'for ever since ever'). In several cases we can see that the older and newer (borrowed) forms were living contemporaneously. There is another ablative case marker in late Old Hungarian +nAn (and its phonetic variant +nAt) that was not put down in the earliest written records, yet it appeared after 1372 in many different instances.

The ablative case in Eastern Old Turkic was expressed by the suffix +DIn, its voiceless variant is +TIn. The vocal of the suffix could be *-i/-i/-u/-ü-*. It is well attested on Old Turkic inscriptions with runic script from the 8th century on. E.g. on the inscription of Köl Tégin we find the following: *kan+din* 'from

where?', *taš+din* 'from outside'. In the same time in western Old Turkic +*DAn* serves as ablative suffix. Its regular variant is +*TAn* after voiceless final consonants in the stem. The major difference between the eastern and western forms is that the latter had only two variants: +*DAn* after velar stems and +*DEn* after stems with a final palatal vocal.

In Middle Turkic we find, for instance, different forms giving us the feeling that it was not settled yet: *önđin* ~ *önđün* 'ran'se' (Fazylov 1971: 194).

As for present day Chuvash language the ablative is expressed by +*rAn* in most cases but after a nominal stem ending in *-r/-l/-m/-n* the suffix is +*čEn*.

We find +*nAn* in some of the western Turkic languages, especially, but not only Kipchak dialects: e.g. in Karachay-Balkar after an original or secondary final *-m/-n/-?*:

men+den > *men+nen* 'from me'

sen+den > *sen+nen* 'from you'

an+dan > *an+nan* 'from her/him/it/there'

elim+den > *el* 'village' + *im* (GenSing1) + *nen* 'from my village'

üyüm+den > *üy* 'house' + *üm* (GenSing1) + *nen* 'from my home'

üyüng+den > *üy* 'house' + *üng* (GenSing2) + *nen* 'from your house'

keng 'far' + *den* > *keng-nen* 'from far'

ertden 'morning' + *den* > *ertden-nen* 'from morning' – these examples show how sound assimilation takes place.

The phenomenon is also well demonstrated in Azeri belonging to the Oghuz Turkic group of languages.¹

Ruhum <i>beden+nen</i> oynar (10a-1-14)	My soul is dancing out of my body...
<i>Yurdunnan</i> , toğma <i>torpagınnan</i> diderkin düşen (11b-15)	'The ones falling astray from their country and homeland'...
Ay, dağlar <i>havasınnan</i> nefes alan millet... (11b-11)	Oh, people taking breath from the air of the mountains...

We see it also in the cases when it is used with personal pronouns:

Ğéderik o ölke <i>sen+nen</i> (15a-15)	'We departure from you, oh country'
Ay Allah, <i>bu+(n)+nan</i> beş dene ver...(8a-9)	'Oh, Allah give five of this...'

¹ Data is cited from the material collected by J. Sipos in Azerbaijan in 2000.

According to many linguists dealing with Hungarian language history, +nAn ~ +nAt serves to intensify the meaning of the stem in the case of *innen* 'from here' (Benkő 1993: 615), *onnan* 'from there' (Benkő 1994: 1063), *onnan*, *onnén*, *onnat*, *onnét* 'from the place in question' (Szabó T. 1997: 1088–1090), *amonnan* 1538 'von dorthier' (TESz 1: 146).

We suggest to consider +nAn (and its variant) ~ +nAt simply an ablative ending with the meaning 'from' on the solid basis of its function. It is not to be found in other Ugrian languages while it is well known in Turkic languages in different periods. Therefore we consider it a loan suffix of Turkic origin. It is not recorded in the earliest written Hungarian records, therefore we consider it to be of Cuman (or other Kipchak Turkic) origin.

The stem of the Hungarian demonstrative and question pronouns is justly considered to be of Uralic origin *e* (~*i*)/ *a* (~*o/u*) and *ho-* (Bárczi-Benkő-Berrár 1967:209). An anorganic -*n-* appears on the word final position before the ending. It is also a well known phenomenon in different Altaic including Turkic languages. There are several instances in Hungarian where the anorganic -*n-* appears on word finals before suffixes.²

According to D. Máta (1991: 415–418), the earliest Hungarian pronoun stems like *i-/o-* as well as question stems like *ho-* were added prime suffixes. Both present day Hungarian *itt* 'here' and *ott* 'there' derives from the Uralic or Finno-Ugic era. *Onnan* and *innen* were formed with the „outside effect” analogous to *honnan*, without any „inner reason”.

The palatal : velar opposition of pair words like in the case of demonstrative pronouns *ez* 'this' ~ *az* 'that', *ide* 'to this place' ~ *oda* 'to that place', *innen* 'from this place' ~ *onnan* 'from that place' is a well known device both in Finn-Ugic and Turkic languages.

Hungarian *honnan?* 'from where?' goes parallel with *hunnét?* (Berrár-Károly 1984: 334) in early records offering us a proof for the different forms of the same ablative ending. The stem is the original pronoun one.

Onnan is given as synonym of ~ *onnét* ~ *onnétlan* 'von dort' (Berrár – Károly 1984: 542), the same concerns Hungarian *másunnan* ~ *másunnat* 'von anderswo' (Berrár – Károly 1984: 477).

Hungarian *innen* ~ *innét(en)* 1. 'von hier'; 2. 'von der Zeit ab'; 3. 'diesseits'; 4. *daher*, *daraus*' (Berrár – Károly 1984: 354). It is also known in Transylvania in the following forms: *innen* ~ *innend*³ ~ *innet* 'from here, from this place, from now on' (Szabó T. 1993: 673–675). The last word serves as a good example for

² E.g. *együnnen* 'from a place', *mostanig* 'till now', *mentől* 'from what', *estennen* 'from evening' etc.

³ The unvoiced pair of the anorganic +*d* appears e.g. on the Hungarian word *rubin* ~ *rubint* 'ruby'.

the double usage of an adverbial, it is valid for both space and time – as we see it in different Turkic languages during different periods also in many cases.

The effective usage of *+nAn* in Hungarian could not be very long and lively and it was restricted. It was replaced by other ablative suffixes like *+tÓl*. In some instances we can still find the double usage of the ablative endings: e.g. *on+nan+tól kezdve* 'starting from there'. In this latter example the old and hazy function of *+nAn* was strengthened by another ending *+tÓl*.

The suffix *+nAn* ~ *+nAt* often serves to help the meaning of the weakening ablative suffix *+l* as we find it in Late Old Hungarian together with other adverbials (D. Máтай 1992: 573). It went further on as we look at their history, because we can find an additional ablative suffix on them: *onnan+tól*, *innen+tól*, etc. It is not a unic event, as we have seen it before, we can offer other examples where the older ending is added a newer one to word-final: *ház* > *ház+ul+ról* 'from home' – in this example the preserved old Uralic ablative suffix: *-l* was completed by a later Hungarian ablative suffix *+rÓl*.

Adverb of place

The case is well known in Crimean Tatar as we learn from the folksongs collected by I. Kúnos after I World War in the prisoners' camp near Esztergom⁴:

Başları tüşken	Ihre Köpfe sanken
gül kibik sunğanlar	wie die Rose wurden sie gelb
bek kübisi bu <i>âlinen</i>	sehr viele von ihnen fielen
şeyit bolğanlar	unter solchen Umständen

In Münch. codex copied in 1466 in Tatros (now Romania) we have the forms meaning 'from here' *innen* (10va21, 14vb31), *innet* (45rb29), *inneten* (43ra24, 58ra9, 72va31), *mindeniinnen* 'from everywhere' (78va43 with another stem but with the same ending 34rb45), *onnan* 'from there' (105vb18, 15va25, 16ra11, 37va12), *onnaton* 'id' (18rb15, 37va12, 71va59), *egyebünnen* 'from another place' (95vb1, 96ra8), *honnan* 'from where?' (19ra44, 20va54, 20va56).

Münch. codex 34vb39.

Az <i>onnan</i> muloc kedig karomlacuala ötèt	'those passing from there cursed him'
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In Jókai codex (XIVth c.) we find the following examples:

<i>honnat</i> te neked ennyi kevésységed...(p.42.)	'this much presumption of yours, where does it derive from?'
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... the form has not settled yet, there is another form with double final *-tt* of

⁴ Both the transcription and the translation belongs to Zs. Kakuk (2001: 514).

the same word, like ...*honnatt*... (p. 56:13), (p. 134:12).

honnan || *honnét* ~ *hunnet* (Berrár-Károly 1984: 334), *innen* ~/ *innét* 1372 'von hier' (Benkő 1993: 615), *inneneten*, *innentova* (Berrár-Károly 1984: 354), *másunnan* ~ *másunnat* 'von anderswo' (Berrár-Károly 1984: 477), *messzünnen* ~ *messziről* 'from far'

We see it on demonstrative pronouns pointing to both near and far:

... menjetek el <i>inneti</i> jeles tolvajok... (80:23)	'go away from here illustrious thieves'...
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There is *innet* 'from here' present in Döbrentei codex (59:4).

We also have the form *onnatt* 'from there' (p. 134:17) and a special form with a so called augmentative element +*lAn*. (This element is also well known to Turkic language users in the same function.)

...[Szt. Ferenc bement egy várba, felmászott egy kőfalra és] <i>onnattlan</i> prédikála ott álló sokaságnak...(94:11)	...'(St. Franc went into a castle, climbed a stone wall) from there he preached to the mass of people standing there'
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The Cuman Turkic people had escaped from the Mongols, and as a result they settled into the Carpathean Basin in the thirteenth century. They were surrounded by Hungarians who considered them – due to their behaviour and physiognomy – to be the spies of the Mongols. After the Cumans had been baptized they all became Protestant⁵. The older generation still remembers that the Christian prayer *Pater Noster* belonged to the school material in the secondary schools of Cuman towns. It survived in at least sixty variants, some of them is preserved in the Hungarian National Library.

Let me cite one of its lines:

'qutqar bizni ol <i>jaman+nan</i> '	'[but] deliver us from evil'
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The stem of the word is Old Turkic *yaman* ‘bad, evil’ (Clauson 1972: 937), it is not represented before the eleventh century. The initial Turkic y- is reflected unanimously by *ĵ*- in Kipchak languages already in the 13th century and this concerns the ablative suffix, for we find it in the form of *+nAn*. It was also documented by Kúnos after World War I, e.g. in his text-collection of Misher Tatar language published by Kakuk. We find the word *yakínnan* ‘näher, aus der Nähe’ (Kakuk 1996: 185) it is also formed from the stem *yakín* ‘near’ with the suffix *+nAn*.

As for the double function of adverbs ending in *+nAn* we can state, that it

⁵ As we learn it from Mándoky Kongur (1993: 12) Christian ideas were introduced to them by wandering preachers in Hungarian.

can be used with adverbs of place and adverb of time also in Hungarian and Turkic languages lets see how it functiones in cases of adverbs of time

Adverb of time

Similarly to the Turkic cases locative and dative valid for both space and time: *bura+da* 'here', *saat altı+da* 'at six o'clock' the ablative case is also valid for both of them: *ora+dan* 'from there', *bugün+den* 'from today', *iki+den* 'from two (o'clock)'. The same concerns Hungarian adverbs of time: *tegnap+tól* 'from yesterday', *öt+től* 'from five o'clock'.⁶

In Jókai codex we find the following examples with *+nAn ~ +nAt*:

...És tehát fráter Rufen <i>jelennen</i> eszébe vevé, hogy...(128:18)	...and so Brother Rufen from now on came to a decision, that'...
...de maga <i>yelennen</i> monda...(198:17)	...but he himself from now on said, that'.....

...hogy <i>ynnetlen</i> Vylagÿ emberek...(192:86)	...from now on secular people'...
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In Döbrentei codex (1508) we see the form *onneton* (DK 4:12):

..es <i>onneton</i> ezvilágra malasztnak özönét ontád...	...and from there you poured the shower of divine grace'...
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In early (XIV-XVth c.) religious Azeri poetry we find the ablative suffix *+nAn*:

<i>İnnen</i> béle qohum-qardaş meni görmez.	'I will not be seen from now on by relatives or brothers' (Sipos Az: 11b-15).
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An example of its apperance in present day Turkish dialect spoken in Mersin southern Anatolia:

...o <i>günnen</i> bu yana...(SJ421 İÇE 7.1)	...from that day until now'...
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⁶ There are lots of other examples from earlier as well as later periods of Hungarian language history: *estennen* 'gegen Abend' (Berrár-Károly 1984: 203) || ~ *estenden*; *estennen* 'in the evening, when it is evening' || *éjennen*, *naponnan* (Czuczor-Fogarasi 412), *estendőn* 'around evening, in the evening; in time' (Czuczor-Fogarasi 412), *éjten-éjjel* Nyr 79:343, *hajdanán* TESz: developed in Hungarian, *jelennen* '1. besonders, speziell; 2. offenbar, evident' (Berrár-Károly 1984: 369), *régenten* 'in/from old times' (MünchK 17va21, 67rb13), *régenten* 'einst, vorzeiten' (Berrár-Károly 1984: 589), adverbial 1. 'sometimes before; earlier; 2. once, sometime' (Jakab – Bölcskei 2000: 352) || Mod. Turkish *eski* 'old'+DEN 'in old times, earlier, in the past, once, before this time',

reggelden 'from morning' (Martinkó-Móra 1898), ~ *reggelten* Nyr 79:343, *regten* 'early' (MNY 6:381), ~ *rögtön* (Martinkó1955: 342) (TESz 455), *újonnán* 1416 'again, once more' (MünchK 64) (TESz 1028), *tegeten* 'yesterday' (NyK 3:349), etc.

azután 1372 u./1448 k. ‘dann’ (TESz 1:206) ~ *aztán, után* || Tu. *ondan*

Adverb of state

The following example is an unusual one even if it appears later again in Jókai codex (204:6). The case is neither an adverb of place nor that of time, but rather adverb of state:

...Tehat legottan <i>tytkonnan</i> elmene...(186:25)	...’And so immediately he went from there in secret’....
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In Karachay Turkic language:

Tawlu tawlunu <i>jürügeninden</i> tanır. (Tavkul 2001:213)	‘The mountainer knows his fellow mountainer from his walking.’
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Lexicalized forms and special usage of +nAn

In Old Anatolian Turkic ablative is also used in the sence ‘because of’.

Cahil şatır olma kim <i>cahillikden</i> gişi néçe ziyanlara uğrar. (QN 36a)	‘Do not be an ignorant happy one because a person receives a number of losses due to ignorance.’ (Turan 2000: 82)
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|| Hungarian *butaság+ból* ‘because of ignorance’

İy padişah od <i>issisinden</i> kimse qatına varımaz. QE 52b-5.	‘O king, no one can approach him because of heat of fire.’ (Turan 2000: 82)
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|| Hungarian: *a tűz melegé+től* ‘because of the heat of fire’

Ki ol <i>qorhudan</i> quş dökeydi qanat	‘And the bird would cast off its feathers out of fear
Qaşanaydı ağramağından qan at. (SN 4070)	And the horse would urinate blood because of its wallowing [too much].’ (Turan 2000: 82–83)

|| Hungarian *félelem+ből* ‘because of fear’

Here we also have Hungarian parallels: *Mitől* véres a lábad? ‘Why is your leg bloody?’, *attól* ideülhetsz, hogy én is itt vagyok, ‘you can take place here even if I am here’ stb.

In Azeri we find also examples of ablative case meaning ‘because of’:

Derd <i>elinnen</i> erzeçiyem men (ex9d2 7b-7)	‘I do complain becuse of my grief...’
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Men de bu <i>dertnen</i> ölsem, (v6-23)	'If me too die from/because of this woe'...
... <i>onnan</i> da ölmezsem...(ex32e 3b-9 Bayatı)	...if I do not die either from that...

Ablative in comparison

Though in cases drawing comparison between two things Hungarian does not utilize ablative suffix any more (except for present day Hungarian dialects) yet we have examples of its vividness in Old Hungarian.

minden <i>emberektől</i> bünösebb (Bécsi codex) ⁷	...'more sinful than any other people'...
<i>mentől</i> nagyobb (Érdy c.511)	...'the larger the better'...
<i>tőlem</i> nagyobb (Gl. 1470) (Benkő 1992:469)	'bigger than me'
<i>ettől</i> kisebb bünökért (Birk. c. 3a) (Benkő 1992:495)	'for sins minor than this one'
<i>ezeztől</i> nagyobb (Müncheni c. 89)	'bigger than this'

Ablative when it is used in comparing two different things, is well documented in present day Turkic languages. We can find it in Karachay – Balkar language both in every-day expressions: *taşdan, temirden küçlü* 'sil'nej kamnja i železa' (Tenišev 1989: 817), and we also find it in proverbs when comparing two different things to each other.

Köb <i>bilgenden</i> köb körgeñ igidi. (Karça-Koşay 1954: 134)	Better is the one who had seen a lot than the one who knows a lot.
<i>Törümdeñ</i> körüm juwuk. (Tavkul 2001: 227)	'My grave is nearer than my seat of honor.'
Boş <i>fürügenden</i> ese boşuna işle. (Tavkul 2001: 10).	'You should rather work in vain than walk in wain.'

⁷ S. Károly published his thorough study in the shape of a dictionary on the morphology of Codex Bécsi, yet he did not find any instances of the suffix *+nAn/+nAt*.

Sabiy <i>konakdan</i> tamada. (Tavkul 2001: 198)	'A child is more important person than a guest.'
Söz <i>sawutdan</i> küçlü. (Tavkul 2001: 204)	'Word is stronger than weapon'

Lexicalized forms with the help of ablative suffix

In Hungarian, a great number of lexicalized forms have developed with the help of adverbials.

fennen hirdet/hangoztat 'proclaim aloud', *újonnan érkezett* 'new arrival', *menten* 'immediately' (Szabó T. 1997: 107) < *mi?+n+tAn* ~ *mentől* is also used in comparison 'the better the' (Szabó T. 1997: 109)

As D. Mátai (2003: 411) explains the lexicalized usage of *mire* (or *minek?*) 'why?' (i.e. the dative case of Hungarian *mi* 'what?'). It goes parallel with the usage of Turkish *ne+den?* 'why?' (i.e. the ablative case of Turkish *ne* 'what?').

Let us take the example of Hungarian *közelebb+ről* 'more precisely' || Turkish *yakın+dan* 'precisely'. The stem is 'near' in both languages and this was completed by an ablative ending. Even though it is not exactly the same case – the Hungarian word is a comparative adjective, the Turkish can be an adjective, a noun and an adverb – the way they become a new word is exactly the same. There we find nominal endings in both languages that can serve as word formatting suffixes.

Idioms with ablative case

According to G. Bereczki (1996: 95) if we compare the usage of verbs of Finno-Ugrians with Indo-European ones we find that the latter expresses the place an action takes place. In Finno-Ugrian languages – even in the case of verbs not expressing motion – we mark the starting point or the direction the verb aims at. (The preference of the usage of the locative case in Hungarian idioms is considered to be secondary and the result of IE effect.)

In present day Turkish we find the example: *Tut elimden kaldır beni* 'holding my hand lift me up' (form a religious song of Bektashi communities) || Hung. *kézen fog* 'to hold sy's hand'. Further examples from present day Turkish: *yakın+dan ilgilen-* 'to pay close attention to', *dert+ten öl-* 'to die of woe', *yeni+den başla-* 'to start again' etc..

Hung. *emlékezet+ből beszél* 'speak by heart', *tanul az esetből* 'learn from the case', *tud valahonnan valamit* 'knows sg. from somewhere',

Turkish *taş+tan yap-* 'to build of stone',

Karachay-Balkar *es+im+den çıktı* 'I forgot it (literally: it went out of my

memory)'

Conclusion

Since Hungarian had developed under strong Turkic influence before the conquest, we should presume several common case markers and other suffixes apart from loan-words in great numbers.

If the Hungarian ablative case marker *+nAn* was borrowed from a Turkic language, it is not a unique phenomenon that a suffix could be borrowed. Under certain circumstances we justly expect bilingualism. We attest the presence of borrowed suffixes also in different Turkic languages from Middle-Mongolian during the period of the Golden Horde.

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Parallel forms and usage of ablative case in Hungarian and Turkic languages

There are several similar phenomena present in the languages of both Uralic and Altaic language families due to the vehement, intensive and lasting contacts at different times of peoples speaking those languages in the past. The way they express three different directions (with the help of dative, locative, ablative cases) is only one of them. There are studies dealing with the mutual influences as well as with convergent developments. We are aware of loanwords present on both sides of the language groups, whereas little has been written about borrowed suffixes. And yet endings are considered to be the most stable part of any language. We want to stress the importance of the parallel forms and the usage of the ablative case +nAn (and its variant +nAt in Hungarian). We suppose it to be a case marker in Hungarian borrowed most probably from Kipchak (among others Cumanian) languages.